

REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 15&16, 2015

The Rush County Council met to conduct budget hearings on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 and Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Chairman, Warren Norris, Charles Smith, Janet Kile, Marvin Hedrick, Scott Barnes, Steve McCorkle, Mary Ann Beard, Auditor and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Gerald Mohr called the budget meeting to order.

FIRST READING OF THE BUDGET

The Auditor dispersed copies of the non-binding budgets, an updated fund reports, and the Department of Government Finance budget worksheet for Rush County detailing the 1.6 million dollar cuts required to meet the maximum levy.

Each Office Holder and Department Supervisor appeared before the Council to present their proposed budgets for 2016.

SOLID WASTE BUDGET

The director of the Rush County Solid Waste District, Carole Yeend presented the district budget for 2016 which had been approved by the Solid Waste board.

The first reading of the 2016 budget was completed at 4:35p.m. Scott Barnes proposed that no raises be considered due to the financial status of the county and a decision on the funding for the APC director's salary be determined by 4:00p.m. Wednesday.

Steve McCorkle moved to recess. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

Council President, Gerald Mohr reconvened the 2016 Budget Hearing at 9:00a.m. with all members present.

Minutes of the August 26th meeting were approved on a motion by Charles Smith. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Sheriff Jim Cowan requested an additional appropriation for the Emergency 911 Fund for the purchase of three consoles. The amount of the needed appropriation is \$300,000. Marvin Hedrick moved to allow the appropriation. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TRANSFERS

Prosecutor Phil Caviness requested a transfer of \$71.29 from expert witnesses to law enforcement in the Infraction Deferral Fund. Warren Norris moved to approve the transfer with Scott Barnes seconding the motion. Motion carried.

REDUCTION BY APPROPRIATION

Auditor Mary Ann Beard presented an ordinance to reduce appropriations in the 2015 budget by the amount of \$160,000. Beard recognized the offices that submitted the reductions in the current budget to reduce the budget cuts required in the 2016 budget. Warren Norris moved to sign the ordinance. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RUSHVILLE CITY INVOICE

Auditor Beard presented an invoice from the City of Rushville for the county's share of the holding pond on North Main St. The Commissioners and Council approved the project pending certain stipulations. Charles Smith moved to pay the bill once the pond becomes a legal drain and maintenance is assessed to the local property owners. Scott Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

LOCAL INCOME TAX

Ordinances for the Public Safety income tax and the special income tax for the construction of a new jail will be presented at the October meeting.

NON-BINDING REVIEWS

The Council approved the Budgets, Levies, and Tax Rates as presented with the recommendation that all units remain within the allowed Growth Quotient as follows:

- Anderson Township-Motion by Steve McCorkle. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Carthage Civil-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Steve McCorkle. Motion carried.
- Center Township-Motion by Warren Norris. Second by Charles Smith. Motion carried.
- Glenwood-Motion by Scott Barnes. Second by Steve McCorkle. Motion carried. Marvin Hedrick abstained.
- Henley Library-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Jackson Township-Motion by Charles Smith. Second by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- Noble Township-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Steve McCorkle. Motion carried.
- Orange Township-Motion by Steve McCorkle. Second by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.
- Posey Township-Motion by Warren Norris. Second by Scott Barnes. Motion carried. Charles Smith abstained.
- Richland Township-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Steve McCorkle. Motion carried.
- Ripley Township-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.
- Rushville City-Motion by Steve McCorkle. Second by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.
- Rushville Public Library-Motion by Steve McCorkle. Second by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.
- Rushville Township-Motion by Warren Norris. Second by Charles Smith. Motion carried.

- Union Township-Motion by Marvin Hedrick. Second by Janet Kile. Motion carried.
- Walker Township-Motion by Charles Smith. Second by Steve McCorkle. Motion carried.
- Washington Township-Motion by Warren Norris. Second by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.

Rush County School budget was received but not reviewed as a non-binding budget.

SECOND READING

The Council proceeded with the second reading of the 2016 County Budget with the following changes:

- All budgets will be reverted to the approved 2015 budgeted amount and revisions made from those figures. Salaries will remain at the 2015 bi-weekly level to allow for the 27th pay in the 2016 calendar year. A raise of 3.8461%.
- A third probation officer was allowed for the establishment of Drug Court.
- The Sheriff agreed to reduce the 2015 Sheriff's budget by \$30,000 and the Jail budget by \$30,000 to allow for one new merit deputy in 2016. Sheriff Cowan was also instructed to move remaining line items in the 2015 budget to the current line item for vehicles. Appropriations were increased in conjunction with an added deputy.
- Scanning was removed from all budgets until a scanning department is established.
- Perf and Social Security was adjusted for the number of 2016 employees.
- The Public Defender's salary was reduced to comply with state statute.
- The Coroner's budget was reduced by \$1,000 for equipment with the instruction of purchasing the needed refrigerator from the 2015 budget.
- The APC Executive Director's salary of \$40,257 was moved to the Plan Consultant line for a total of \$65,257 for 2016 and the ordinance updates was set at \$25,000.
- The Surveyor's line item of \$17,000 to pay for a retired sheriff's vehicle was removed and the amount will be considered in the Sheriff's vehicle appropriation.
- EMA budget reduced Repairs & Maintenance to \$3,000.
- The Assessor agreed to reduce the Reassessment Budget by \$25,000.
- The Commissioner's budget allowed \$5,000 for Victim's Assistant and reduced the Boys & Girls club to \$25,000. Anderson Township Fire & EMS was increased to \$40,000. The insurance appropriations were allowed for 2016. Examination of Record was increased to \$40,000 due to the increase in charge by the State Board of Accounts.
- Courthouse budget added a line item for lawn care and utilities for the courthouse annex.
- The IT director was granted an increase in salary to \$54,999.
- Contract employees were increased by 3.8461%
- CAGIT fund was budgeted for the 2016 employee bonus along with the bonus from 2015 for elected officials. The \$75,000 line item for sheriff fuel was moved to the CAGIT fund. An additional appropriation will be required in January.

- Cumulative Capital Development fund rate will double in 2016. Bridge Inspection of \$80,000 has been added to this fund.

APC

Scott Barnes recommended that the APC director's salary be funded for the remainder of the year and that the ghost employment issue be resolved by the director submitting the State Board of Accounts timesheet to the auditor. Mr. Barnes submitted the recommendation in the form of a motion. Marvin Hedrick seconded the motion. Barnes, Hedrick and Smith voted "yes". Norris, Kile, and McCorkle voted "no". Chairman Gerald Mohr broke the tie by voting "yes". Motion Carried.

A transfer of funds in the amount of \$10,437 from APC Consultant to APC Director Salary was approved on a motion by Charles Smith and seconded by Scott Barnes with the same vote as above. Motion carried.

2016 SOLID WASTE BUDGET

Solid Waste budget was reduced by \$10,000 in the Household Hazardous Waste and \$5,000 in recycling. After the second reading, a motion to approve the Solid Waste budget in the amount of \$122,457 was offered by Charles Smith. Warren Norris seconded the budget. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY BUDGET 2016

Salaries for county employees will increase by 3.8461% to allow for the 27th pay with the exception of the Public Defender and the IT Director. The part time salary will remain the same. Warren Norris moved to approve the Rush County budget of 2016. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McCorkle moved to adjourn at 7:00p.m. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/s/ Gerald Mohr
Gerald Mohr, Chairman

/s/ Warren Norris
Warren Norris

/s/ Charles Smith
Charles Smith

/s/ Janet Kile
Janet Kile

/s/ Marvin Hedrick
Marvin Hedrick

/s/ Scott Barnes
Scott Barnes

/s/ Steve McCorkle
Steve McCorkle

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor